

the method according to claim 8.

17. (NEW) The method according to claim 10, wherein the bacteria comprises E. Coli.

18. (NEW) The method according to claim 8, wherein the speed of rotation of the housing is 800-2800 rpm.

### REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested. Claims 1-16 have been amended. Claims 6-8 and 12-16 stand objected to as being in improper multiple-dependent format. In response, Applicant has amended each of claims 6-8 and 12-16 to eliminate any improper multiple claim dependencies. Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to claims 6-8 and 12-16 be withdrawn.

Claims 10-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter for which patent protection is sought. In response, Applicant has amended claim 10 to remove the exemplary language. Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to claim 10 be withdrawn. Claim 11 has been amended to depend only from independent claim 9. Applicant respectfully requests the objection to claim 11 be withdrawn.

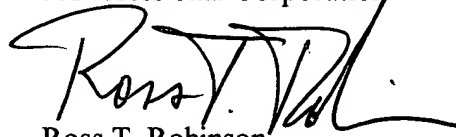
Various other amendments have been made to the claims in order to better conform the claims to U.S. practice. Applicant respectfully submits that these claim amendments are not intended to narrow the claims in any way and are not being made for any reason related to the statutory requirements for patentability.

Applicant appreciates the allowance of claims 1-5 and 9. Because claims 6-8 and 10-18

depend from and further limit allowed independent claims 1 and 9, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are in allowable form. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

JENKENS & GILCHRIST,  
A Professional Corporation

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ross T. Robinson", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

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**EXHIBIT A  
MARKED-UP CLAIMS**

1. (AMENDED) An apparatus for the treatment of contaminated media, comprising:  
a rotatable housing having at least one inlet [(28)] for gas and at least <sup>ONE</sup> ~~one~~ suction opening [(10; 32)] for the medium to be treated;

a number of outlet openings [(25; 27)] arranged along the periphery of the housing;

a number of vanes [(22; 23)] arranged in said outlet openings [(35; 27)]; [and] a shaft [(24)] connected to the housing and connectable to a device for causing rotation of the housing;  
and

[characterized in that]

<sup>ONE</sup>  
wherein the housing comprises at least ~~one~~ compartment which is essentially shaped as a truncated cone, with the inlet [(10; 32)] for the medium to be treated at the apex of the cone and the outlets [(25; 27)] at the base thereof.

2. (AMENDED) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

said housing comprises an upper compartment [(5)] with a corresponding upper suction opening [(32)] and a lower compartment [(7)] with a corresponding lower suction opening [(10)]; where the upper and the lower compartments are separated by a plate [(20)]; and wherein

<sup>openings</sup>  
the plurality of outlet ~~opening~~ [(25; 27)] provided along the periphery of the housing ~~or~~ <sup>or</sup> housings belong to the upper [(5)] and the lower [(7)] compartments respectively, at the opposite end thereof with respect to the corresponding suction opening [(32, 10)].

3. (AMENDED) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said housing comprises one single compartment [(7)] having the shape of a truncated cone with the apex facing downwards, and having a suction opening [(10)] at the apex of said cone, and a plate [(20)] forming the base of said cone and closing said compartment [(7)], and wherein the gas inlet [(28)] exits through said plate [(20)].

4. (AMENDED) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said housing comprises one single compartment [(7)] having the shape of a truncated cone with the apex facing upwards, and having a suction opening [(32)] at the apex of said cone, and a plate [(20)] forming

the base of said cone and closing said compartment (7), and wherein the gas inlet [(28)] exits through said plate (20).

5. (AMENDED) The apparatus according to claim 2 or 4, wherein the upper suction opening [(32)] has the shape of an annular gap.

6. (AMENDED) The apparatus according to [any of the preceding claim], claim 1 wherein the vanes [(22; 23)] are arranged such that they extend from the periphery and a distance inward towards the centre of the apparatus, and form an angle ( $\alpha$ ) with an imagined line running from the outermost point of attachment for respective vane and through the centre of the entire unit.

7. (AMENDED) The apparatus according to [any preceding] claim 1, wherein the ~~rotation transferring means is a shaft [(24)] which~~ is attached to the plate [(20)] in the centre of thereof.

8. (AMENDED) The apparatus according to [any of the preceding claims], claim 1, wherein the shaft [(24)] is hollow and connected to a gas source via a throttle valve [(30)] for the supply of gas to the inner of the apparatus via an opening [(28)] in the end of the shaft [(24)].

9. (AMENDED) A method of treatment of contaminated media containing organic material, the method comprising the following steps:

providing a rotatable, cone shaped housing having an inlet and an outlet for medium to be treated;

immersing said housing in the medium to be treated;

rotating said housing such that a vortex is generated therein; and

supplying gas to the center of said vortex.

10. (AMENDED) The method according to claim 8, wherein the medium has a high concentration of bacteria[, e.g. E. Coli].

11. (AMENDED) The method according to claim [8 or] 9, wherein the medium is manure, waste water sludge, <sup>or</sup> leak water from waste deposits.

12. (AMENDED) The method according to [any of claims 8-10] claim 8, wherein the speed of rotation of the housing is 500-3500 rpm[, preferably 800-2800 rpm].

13. (AMENDED) The method according to [any of claims 8-11] claim 8, wherein the gas is air.

14. (AMENDED) The method according to [any of claims 8-11] claim 8, wherein the gas is ozone.

15. (AMENDED) The method according to [any of claims 8-13] claim 8, wherein an apparatus according to [any of claims 1-6] is claim 1 is used.

X 16. (AMENDED) A product obtained by treatment of a contaminated medium with the method according to [any of claims 8-14] claim 8.

17. (NEW) The method according to claim 10, wherein the bacteria comprises E. Coli.

18. (NEW) The method according to claim 8, wherein the speed of rotation of the housing is 800-2800 rpm.



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1724

PATENT APPLICATION  
DOCKET NO.: 45687-00063USPX  
P P04690US/Ali/mck

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/889,332  
Applicant(s) : Rolf AHLSTRÖM  
Filed : October 25, 2001  
Title : DEVICE AND METHOD FOR THE TREATMENT  
OF CONTAMINATED MEDIA  
TC/A.U. : 1724  
Examiner : Chester T. Barry  
Docket No. : 45687-00063USPX

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited postage paid with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	
on	<i>July 11, 2003</i>
Signature	<i>Carol Mitchell</i>

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Dear Sir:

This is a response/amendment/letter in the above-identified application and includes the transmitted herewith attachment(s) of the same date and subject which is/are incorporated hereunto by reference. The signature below is to be treated as the signature to the attachment(s) in absence of a signature thereto.

Transmitted herewith in the above-identified application is/are:

1. Amendment Transmittal Letter;
2. Response to Office Action;



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PATENT APPLICATION  
DOCKET NO.: 45687-00063USPX  
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3. Check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for filing fees;

4. Acknowledgment Postcard.

\_\_\_\_\_ Small entity status of this application under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a verified statement previously submitted.

\_\_\_\_\_ A verified statement claiming small entity status under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.

X No additional fee is required.

\_\_\_\_\_ The Fee for entering the attached Amendment is calculated below:

	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY RATE		LARGE ENTITY RATE
TOTAL CLAIMS	_____ - _____	(at least 20)	= _____ (at least 0)	x9	= <u>OR</u>	x18 = \$_____
INDEP. CLAIMS	_____ - _____	(at least 3)	= _____ (at least 0)	x39	= <u>OR</u>	x84 = \$_____
FIRST PRESENTATION OF <u>PROPER</u> MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS (leave blank if this is a <u>reissue</u> appln)			+140	= <u>OR</u>		+280 = \$_____

**FEE FOR CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

\_\_\_\_\_ IDS ATTACHED REQUIRES OFFICIAL FEE - ADD \$180 (RULE 1.97(c)) PETITION) \$\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Assignment Recordation Fee (\$40) \$\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ IF TERMINAL DISCLAIMER attached add Rule 20(d) Official Fee \$55 (Small Entity) \$110 (Large Entity) \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Petition is hereby made** under 37 CFR 1.136(a) to extend the original due date to cover the date this response is filed for which the requisite fee is attached:

	Small Entity	Large Entity
One Month	_____ \$ 55	_____ \$110
Two Months	_____ \$205	_____ \$410
Three Months	_____ \$465	_____ \$930
Four Months	_____ \$725	_____ \$1450
Five Months	_____ \$985	_____ \$1970

ADDITIONAL FEE FOR EXTENDED RESPONSE \$

Applicant has not been notified that the requested extension will not be permitted. The present application is not involved in an interference declared pursuant to 37 CFR 1.611.

TOTAL FEES \$

PATENT APPLICATION  
DOCKET NO.: 45687-00063USPX  
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\_\_\_\_\_ A check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to cover the TOTAL FEE is attached. Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-0447.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please charge my Deposit Account No. 10-0447 in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to cover the TOTAL FEE. This sheet is attached in duplicate.

**CHARGE STATEMENT**: If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee specifically authorized hereafter, or any missing or insufficient fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith or concerning any paper filed hereafter, and may be required under 37 CFR 1.16-1.18 (missing or insufficiencies only) now or hereafter relative to this application and for the resulting Official Document under 37 CFR 1.20, OR credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 10-0447, for which purpose a duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

**This CHARGE STATEMENT does not authorize charge of the issue fee until/unless an issue fee transmittal form is filed.**

Respectfully submitted,

JENKENS & GILCHRIST,  
A Professional Corporation

By: \_\_\_\_\_

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